

**SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP Inc.
MINUTES FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 15 MARCH, 2014
HOSTED BY PITTWATER COUNCIL AT THE
COASTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE, NORTH NARRABEEN,
12.00 PM**

IN ATTENDANCE

Cr. Mark Castle	Botany Bay Council
Cr. Irene Doutney	City of Sydney Council
Cr. Linda Scott	City of Sydney Council
Cr. Anthony Anisse	Hornsby Council
Cr. Cathy Griffin	Manly Council
Cr. Barbara Aird	Manly Council
Cr. Tom Sherlock	Mosman Council
Mr. Peter Massey	North Sydney Council
Cr. Selena Griffith	Pittwater Council
Mr. Paul Hardie	Pittwater Council
Cr. Geoff Stevenson	Randwick Council
Mr. David Dekel	Rockdale Council
Cr. Sue Heins	Warringah Council
Cr. Leon Gottsman	Waverley Council
Cr. Wendy Norton	Willoughby Council
Cr. Greg Levenston	Woollahra Council
Dr. Judy Lambert AM	Honorary Member
Mr. Geoff Withycombe	SCCG (EO)
Mr. Stephen Summerhayes	SCCG (MP&P)
Ms. Emma Norrie	SCCG (CPO)
Mr. Michael Dean	SCCG (PO-B)
Dr. Ian Armstrong	SCCG (PO-SP)
Mr. Phil Colman	Honorary Member
Emeritus Professor Bruce Thom AM	Honorary Member
Ms. Judy Lambert AM	Honorary Member
Ms. Wendy McMurdo	Honorary Member

1. OPENING

The meeting opened at 12.30pm. Cr. Griffin (Chairperson) welcomed delegates. Cr Selena Griffith provided a 'Welcome to Country' and welcomed delegates to Pittwater. Cr Griffith provided a brief overview of the activities and functions of the Coastal Environmental Centre noting that over 60,000 people go through the centre each year. Cr Cathy Griffith thanked Pittwater Council for hosting the meeting including thanking Paul Hardie for managing the meeting logistics. Phil Colman and Prof Bruce Thom AM were also thanked for giving up their time to host the very informative field trip to the Narrabeen Head rock platform prior to the meeting.

The sad passing of Clr Pat Reilly, Mayor of Willoughby on 21 January was acknowledged. Pat, the Mayor of Willoughby for 17 years was a long term SCCG executive member and strong supporter of the SCCG for many years. Clr Norton noted that a concert was held in his honour with over 1000 people attending.

Resolved that the Group send a letter to Clr Pat Reilly's family via the GM of Council.
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2. APOLOGIES

Cr. Brian Troy	Botany Bay Council
Cr. Mark Castle	Botany Bay Council
Cr. John Mant	City of Sydney Council
Cr. Darcy Byrne (Mayor)	Leichhardt Council
Cr. Tony Carr	North Sydney Council
Cr. Jacqueline Townsend (Mayor)	Pittwater Council
Cr. Lindsay Shurey	Randwick Council
Cr. Shane O'Brian	Rockdale Council
Cr. Peter Towell	Sutherland Council
Cr. Sally Betts (Mayor)	Waverley Council
Cr. Lynne Saville	Willoughby Council
Mr. George Cotis	Honorary Member

Resolved that the apologies be received and noted.

Councils not represented at the meeting
Leichhardt and Sutherland.

3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Resolved that there was no declaration of pecuniary interests.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the SCCG held on 7 December 2013 at the City of Sydney Council.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the SCCG held on 7 December 2013 at the City of Sydney Council be confirmed.

4.2 Minutes of the Technical Committee Meeting of the SCCG held on 13 December 2013 hosted by Woollahra Council at the Watsons Bay Hotel

Resolved that the Minutes of the Technical Committee Meeting of the SCCG held on 13 December 2013 at the Watsons Bay Hotel be received and noted.

5. BUSINESS ARISING

Business arising from minutes other than those items listed in reports below.

- **SCCG Water Recycling Handbook for Councils**

Due to numerous other priorities the draft Handbook will now be tabled later in the year.

- **Establishment of workshop with Sydney Water, IPART and NSW EPA to end ocean outfalls**

Following a meeting with the Chair and the EO it has been determined that the SCCG will facilitate an "Integrated Water Management" forum in the second half of 2014. This event will address WSUD, sewage outfalls, infrastructure issues (including the SCCG integrated water project) and the SCCG Water Recycling Guidelines (under development).

- **General Business Actions**

- 1) The SCCG seek a meeting with the LLS to discuss the SCCG Salty Communities Project and seek information on how the SCCG could nominate a representative to the LLS board.
 - It was noted that a meeting is being scheduled to discuss the SCCG Salty Communities project in the coming weeks.
 - LLS Board representation has been determined. It was noted that the previous HNCMA had a local government advisory board and the SCCG should seek representation on this.
- 2) Publish John Corkill's Law paper on website.
 - As an outcome from the December meeting, John Corkill's paper on ambulatory boundaries has been made available for download from the [Agenda](#) page of the website.

Prof Thom provided the following explanation of the issue:

The paper examines two key forms of title in NSW – 'ambulatory' (natural boundaries influenced by the doctrine of accretion) and 'torrens' title (ie, fixed boundaries determined at registration of property). The crux of Corkill's argument is that you cannot own land below MHWL, so as sea levels rise, private property that falls below MHWL automatically reverts to the Crown. Corkill argues that real property cannot exist below MHWL, which potentially has enormous implications for the registration of titles. However the NSW Government has contradicted this in recent decisions (eg, Old Bar).

Corkill has requested a 'stated case' before the Supreme Court to clarify the issue, which will more than likely end up in the High Court, given the gravity of the issue. Any ruling arising from the case would then apply across Australia.

Resolved that

- 1) The SCCG Water Recycling Handbook for Councils be tabled later in the year.
- 2) The SCCG facilitate an "Integrated Water Management" forum in the second half of 2014. This event will address WSUD, sewage outfalls, infrastructure issues including the SCCG integrated water project and the SCCG Water Recycling Guidelines (under development).
- 3) The Group meet with LLS regarding the SCCG Salty Communities project and to seek representation on the proposed LLS Local Government Advisory Board
- 4) The opportunities for shared service model(s) and possible expansion of the SCCG be further considered as part of the redevelopment of the SCCG Strategic Plan in 2014.
- 5) The SCCG invite OEHL (Director of Coasts) to present on Stage 2 Coastal Reforms at the next meeting (pending progress).
- 6) SCCG write to the Registrar-General supporting the need for clarification of matters raised by Corkill

All other actions either completed or included in the agenda for attention.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Sent and Received Correspondence

Resolved that all correspondence for this reporting period be tabled at the next meeting.

i. Annual Invitation for SCCG Consultation with Member Councils

In the interest of keeping Member Councils informed and actively engaged in SCCG activities we have again written formally to members inviting an opportunity to meet with the SCCG Executive Committee delegates and the Executive Officer.

7. PRESENTATION

Slides attached

7.1 [NSW Marine Estate Management Authority](#)

(Mr Bill Talbot, Director, Aquaculture and Aquatic Environment)

Mr Talbot provided delegates with an overview of the formation, roles and activities of the Marine Estate Management Authority. The presentation (slides attached) reviewed the following issues:

- The Audit
- Why business as usual is not an option
- Undermining principles
- Reforms – Two new Advisory Bodies
- What does the Expert Panel do
- Threat and Risk Assessment Framework
- Marine Park Management Reforms
- Marine Estate Management Strategy
- Consultation and Engagement
- Questions

A question and answer session was then facilitated. Details of this are included in Attachment 1.

The EO noted that the SCCG has been invited to contribute to the development of the Strategy. The EO will initially sit on this committee representing the SCCG and will ensure information flow both ways to ensure effective SCCG representation on behalf of all member councils.

Resolved that

- 1) The presentation be heard and considered at the meeting.
- 2) Mr Talbot be thanked for his attendance and presentation.
- 3) The SCCG write to the MEMA and relevant Ministers extending thanks for the presentation and raising issues identified by the Group, including:
 - Coordination between key agencies to ensure successful implementation of Strategy
 - Marine estate linking to the defined NSW Coastal Zone
 - Confusion regarding immediate press release and further statements about fishing in aquatic reserves
 - Membership of the Panel, in particular, the need for Climate Change and oceanographers experts
 - Further information regarding how Councils will be consulted and able to participate in the development of the Marine Estate Management Strategy.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

8.1 **SCCG Annual Survey 2013 – Results Report**

[\(report hyperlink\)](#)

Proceedings in Brief

The aim of the Annual Survey is to enable the SCCG Group Secretariat to identify what SCCG activities have assisted Member Councils and importantly to identify additional avenues and activities to further enhance this assistance.

The CPO presented a summary of the Annual Survey Results Report together with a summary of respondents for consideration and discussion.

The survey Questionnaire listed 9 key capacity building/project subject areas which Member Councils previously identified as important. To prioritise future activities, in the survey participants rank ordered this list. The ranking will inform how the SCCG priorities capacity building activities in 2014.

Resolved that

- 1) The Report be received and noted.
- 2) Any additional key recommendations and potential actions be discussed for potential implementation.
- 3) The SCCG 2014 Action(s) Plans be adapted to incorporate the Annual Survey recommendations and actions from both the Technical Committee and Full Group.
- 4) The capacity building section of the 2014 Annual Survey, be expanded to elicit further feedback including Priority – 1st order > Element – 2nd order and Deliverable / Outcome).

8.2 Provision of the SCCG Annual Funding Guide 2014

[\(tabled at meeting now available via the SCCG web site\)](#)

Proceedings in Brief

The SCCG Secretariat has produced the 2014 SCCG Funding Guide. The Guide presents details of the over 60 funding opportunities available under a variety of grant programs for Councils, communities, businesses and individuals.

It was suggested that the SCCG consider inclusion of less relevant items outside the scope of the SCCG Strategic Plan as these can open up opportunities to develop targeted environmental programs (for e.g., a program targeted at disadvantaged youth may involve an environmental component).

Resolved that:

- 1) The Funding Guide be received and noted.
- 2) The Funding Guide be formally sent to Member Councils for their utilisation and placed on the SCCG web site for more general access.
- 3) Delegates assist to highlight the availability and continuous improvement of the SCCG Funding Guide.
- 4) The SCCG produce the 2015 Funding Guide by March 2015.

9. REPORTS

Reports 9.1 – 9.4
FOR CONSIDERATION

9.1 Reforms to Coastal Management in NSWProceedings in Brief

Delegates were referred to the report contained in the business papers. This contains:

- A general update on reforms to Coastal Management in NSW (from OEH)
- Update on the [NSW Coastal Adaptation Node](#)

Delegates were informed that Stage 2 coastal reforms are intended to have a “a strategic focus and are closely linked to the current planning reforms and local government review”. The Coastal Ministerial Taskforce has approved the scope of the stage 2 reforms, which is intended to deliver longer term improvements in the management of erosion risks by councils and landowners. To this end, the NSW Government is now preparing more detailed proposals in three key areas:

- Establishing a simpler and more integrated legal and policy framework for coastal management
- Providing improved guidance and technical advice to councils, while enabling and supporting local decision making
- Identifying potential funding options, particularly to implement coastal asset management strategies.

Community and stakeholder input to this process will be vital, and consultation on specific proposals will occur later this year.

The stage 2 reforms will continue to be overseen by relevant Government Ministers with input from the Coastal Expert Panel.

Prof Bruce Thom led a discussion on the coastal reforms:

- There are 3 key panels associated with the reforms:
 - i) Coastal Assessment Panel (oversees the coastal & estuary management grants program)
 - Prof Thom noted that, recently, Councils have been unable to come up with the 50% matching funds, leading to a surplus of State funds.
 - ii) Coastal Panel (statutory body)
 - Advises councils on foreshore management
 - Consent authority for private development on the foreshore (specifically related to seawalls and nourishment) where a council does not have a CZMP (operates as a PAC in this respect)
 - Angus Gordon (Coastal engineer and former GM of Pittwater Council) has been appointed to the Panel as its Chairperson
 - iii) Coastal Expert Panel
 - Independent advisory body for the Minister of the Environment
 - Formally appointed to end-March, but are currently seeking an extension based on delays to other related reforms (Planning, Local Government, Crown Lands)
 - Angus Gordon (Coastal engineer and former GM of Pittwater Council) has been appointed to the Panel.
- **STAGE 2:**
 - An interagency group chaired by OEH is to oversee stage 2 reforms
 - Delays to Planning, Local Government and Crown Lands reforms have delayed stage 2
- Prof Thom concluded that there is an underlying conflict of interests, with pressure to reduce regulation at the same time as addressing long term issues.

Resolved that:

- 1) The report be received and noted.
- 2) Prof Bruce Thom AM provide the Group with an update of activities from the Coastal Expert Panel (where possible).
- 3) Through discussion, the SCCG determine additional actions to address Member Council issues and concerns.
- 4) The SCCG write to the Minister for the Environment and cc Minister for Local Government seeking:
 - The Terms of Reference for the Coastal Expert Panel
 - Details of the consultation process the Expert Panel is undertaking with Council
 - Consideration of allowing and appropriately resourcing the Expert Panel to undertake a semi formal consultation processes with the NSW coastal community, especially coastal councils and their communities
 - Clarification that the Expert Panel final report will be made available and how the government intends to seek consultation and engagement on Expert Panel recommendations.

9.2 SCCG Capacity Building Program & Engagements Report

Proceedings in Brief

The Secretariat is working with Member Councils to ensure the SCCG Capacity Building Program meets their needs. To assist this, a report from the Coastal Projects Officer on the Capacity Building Program and other activities is a standing item on all Technical Committee and Full Group meeting agendas. The report includes:

- Review of SCCG Summerama Program (January 2014)
- Recent and Upcoming SCCG events

The CPO reported on the development of the 2014 Capacity Building Program Scoping Document - it has been reviewed and will be updated subsequent to the outcomes of workshops relating to the Annual Survey results (see Item above). The CPO will report on the status of the Document at the next meeting.

SCCG Summerama 2014

The CPO provided an update on Summerama 2014 - it was a great success, with over 1900 participants attending more than 60 events held across 13 participating Member Councils (Hornsby, Liechhardt, Manly, Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Randwick, Rockdale, Sutherland, Warringah, Waverley, Willoughby & Woollahra) Activities ranged from rock pool rambles, snorkelling tours and beach safety talks to craft workshops, film screenings and guided bushwalks.

Key highlights included:

- Social media campaign maintained throughout December and January, with regular Facebook & Twitter updates
- Over 1,900 participants attending 64 activities undertaken across 13 participating Member Councils
- Photo Competition conducted via Facebook, with prizes for the top 3 entries awarded
- Event surveys developed and distributed to Champions & participants (results being collated)
- Evaluation Survey developed and distributed to Champions (results are currently being collated)

Resolved that:

- 1) This report be received and considered.
- 2) Delegates identify and recommend any additional capacity building activities/forum topics for 2014.
- 3) The CPO develop the 2014 Capacity Building Program Scoping Document (with calendar of events) subsequent to the outcomes of the Annual Survey Results workshops and report details to the next Full Group meeting.
- 4) The CPO prepare a Summerama 2014 Outcomes and Recommendations Report and provide to Summerama Champions for consideration and incorporation into the 2015 program

9.3 Finalising activities for SCCG's 25 Year anniversary

Proceedings in Brief

Delegates were reminded that the SCCG is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2014. At the December 2013 meeting delegates work-shopped potential ideas to celebrate this significant milestone. Worksheets were completed in groups seeking input in relation to areas such as key messages, communications and marketing, catchphrases, events and collaborations. A similar workshop was held at the Christmas TC meeting.

Results from these consultations have been reviewed and work shopped by the Secretariat to develop a final list of proposals for Member Councils' consideration. The CPO reviewed this list and sought any comment / input from delegates.

Activities include:

ACTIVITY	PURPOSE / OBJECTIVE
Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect on the history of (a) the Sydney coast and (b) the SCCG over the last 25 years • Scope future directions for the Group over the next 25 years and associated actions (through a back casting exercise or similar)
Gala Dinner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrate significant milestones, achievements and persons associated with the SCCG over the last 25 years • Engage key stakeholders
Community engagement activity (to be determined)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance community awareness of the SCCG and key issues affecting Sydney's coastal and estuarine environments • Secure media coverage
Promotional materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the 25th Anniversary of the SCCG and the Group's achievements and milestones • Enhance awareness of the work of the SCCG
Collaborations / partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broaden the reach of our promotional materials and cross-promote the work of the SCCG with like-minded organisations / initiatives

Resolved that:

- 1) The CPO's report be received and considered.
- 2) The nominated 25th Anniversary activities be endorsed.
- 3) A 25th Anniversary working group be established.
- 4) The SCCG write to Member Councils informing of planned activities and seeking their support and assistance.
- 5) Outcomes of the workshop be documented and tabled at first 25th Anniversary working group meeting.

MEETING BREAK

9.4 SCCG Emergency Management Planning – Piloting a Health Check for Local Government

Proceedings in Brief

The Project Officer, Dr Ian Armstrong, provided an overview of consultation to date and work to improve the content and functionality of the Health Check.

The collated results of the workshop, held in December 2013, were circulated to the participants and the Advisory Committee in early January to ensure the results reflected the discussions and input of attendees accurately. An edited draft of the Health Check was circulated to all emergency management contacts in late January for exhibition during February. The Project Officer followed up with one-on-one conversations and mini-workshops with council officers to solicit comment. It was generally agreed that a full review would take more time and most Council officers supported an extension of the consultation period. Sufficient input was obtained to improve the content, layout, and functionality.

The Project Officer explained the proposed approach to improving functionality and reporting of the results. An Excel consultant will be employed to develop a robust tool which will be more accessible and usable by Local Government officers in all areas of Councils. It is important both to maintain data integrity and to provide a tool that will be accessible to users regardless on skills in the use of Excel.

Comments from Council staff are summarised by saying, because:

- there are few statutory responsibilities for councils in Emergency Management, *and*
- the Local Emergency Management Committee is not the same as Council, *we must*
- clarify upfront the roles for Councils and the combat agencies and the needs for resourcing for Emergency Management, *so that*
- the Health Check is not a way to beat up councils.

The Health Check isn't an audit of what councils *must* do in Emergency Management; it is a tool to help councils support their communities efficiently and effectively.

Resolved that:

1. The report be received and considered.
2. SCCG delegates assist with Member Council promotion and participation in the project as draft materials come out during April.
3. The SCCG approach the Ministry for Police and Emergency Services for a time extension, within the original budget, to allow for an extended consultation process.

9.5 Sydney's Salty Communities – Turning the Tide on Blue-Green Carbon

Proceedings in brief

Michael Dean (Project Officer – Biodiversity) provided delegates with a review of recent activities.

The Project Officer presented an update beginning with the new greener logo (artistic feedback from the SCCG Technical Committee, perhaps balancing loss of green at other levels of government).

The Officer reviewed the project objectives and expanded on the project's alignment with the Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund investment themes:

- Theme 1: biodiverse plantings: to increase extent and connectivity, enhance species diversity and improve social amenity
- Theme 2: protect and enhance existing vegetation: to increase both planning and physical protection of coastal ecology and maintain or improve biophysical condition
- Theme 3: managing invasive species in a connected landscape: to reduce regional and local priority weeds, introduced fauna and catchment inputs that encourage weed growth

The project working group comprising the 15 SCCG Member Councils (at this stage) met on 20 February to review selection of salt-dominated and salt-influenced coastal vegetation types for project focus. The working group has begun to collect and integrate the various sources of information employed for biodiversity management in their respective areas are preparing research questions for the project to address.. The next session (17 April) will focus on integrating local government area priorities with the regional picture. The following session will workshop sub-projects for funding via the project's devolved grant scheme.

In addition to endangered and threatened ecological communities at national and state level, the project adds a regional/local focus. The Officer displayed the current listing of vegetation communities and outlined a specific localised example mapping a rare remnant vegetation type (that lacks EEC/TEC status but is limited in extent). As well as biophysical metrics, attributes of social capability and value are being considered (in this instance: proximity to one of the more spectacular coastal walks and custodianship by local Bushcare).

In addition to the Salty Working Group, the project anticipates a Salty Reference Committee drawn from specialists (field and biodiversity management experts, specialists from NSW agency and the research community) to provide another level of input, guide research and evaluate sub-projects. Delegates provided additional suggestions for membership of this committee to be convened in April/May.

Resolved that:

- 1) The report be received and considered.
- 2) SCCG delegates:
 - a) continue to champion the project within their council organisation
 - b) consider possible biodiversity capacity-building needs and opportunities for their local communities
 - c) Review the Salty Reference Committee list and advise whether they would like to self-nominate; and/or advise suitable candidates from the scientific, research, policy or stakeholder communities.
- 3) The Project Officer to consider addressing the issue of streamlined approvals under the EPBC Act as part of literature review

9.6 Joint Expert Maritime Working Group

Proceedings in Brief

Delegates were informed that, following the presentation by Howard Glenn, General Manager, Maritime Management Centre Transport for NSW at the SCCG AGM September 2013, the SCCG has been invited to become a member of the newly established “Joint Expert Maritime Working Group”.

The Chairperson, Cr. Cathy Griffith, is representing the Group on this committee and provided delegates with an update on current activities

- The Chair attended the first meeting of the Working Group (chaired by Howard Glenn), along with representatives from Planning and Maritime
- Two key issues were discussed - residents' influence on decisions regarding boating recreation and boat storage issues
- The Chair noted that environmental / amenity interests were underrepresented amongst the membership and focus of the Working Group, and proposed that a short workshop be had to canvass key issues for delegates. The following issues were identified:
 - boat storage (particularly in residential streets)
 - marinas
 - parking near moorings (there is no requirement for consideration of parking & environmental impacts when mooring licences are issued)
 - impacts on scenic quality
 - costs to Councils of engaging with developers (ie, in regards to development applications eg, Rose Bay Marina)
 - guidelines on dealing with boats in and around clubs
 - waste and disposal of boats and their parts
 - guidelines on impoundment of dinghies
 - boat-generated sewage
 - fuel effluent and other pollutants

The SCCG will now develop a more comprehensive survey of Member Councils to enlist their views, issues and needs in relation to maritime and boating management in Sydney to ensure that the Chairperson can effectively represent the interests and needs of all member councils on this committee. It was also suggested that the Chair will provide update reports on activities and outcomes of the Working Group as required.

Resolved that:

- 1) The Chair's report be received and considered.
- 2) The Secretariat survey Member Councils regarding their views, issues and needs in relation to maritime and boating management in Sydney.
- 3) The Chairperson to provide update reports on outcomes from the Working Group as required.

9.7 Walking Coastal Sydney

**THE INAUGURAL WALK – SYDNEY HARBOUR & COASTAL WALK
16 AUGUST TO 14 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Proceedings in Brief

The EO directed delegates to the report attached in the business papers containing program background information as well as details of the Walking Volunteers' proposal to undertake the Inaugural Walk from 16 August to 14 September 2014.

The EO provided a brief background to the 8 year history of the partnership between the SCCG the Walking Volunteers to establish, map and promote the [Walking Coastal Sydney](#) program.

The aim of the Inaugural Walk is to promote the benefits of walking, publicise the foreshore route and its significance, stimulate awareness of our environment and history, improve community health both physical and mental, encourage tourism and the use of public transport, and promote both international conferences.

Promotion of this significant Walk will hope to encourage participation in recreational activities, showcase significant natural and cultural places, advance healthy lifestyles, deliver on tourism, and produce real benefits for the community and the economy – all goals in the State's NSW 2021 plan.

Resolved that:

- 1) The report be received and considered.
- 2) The SCCG support the Inaugural Sydney Harbour & Coastal Walk (August – September 2014).
- 3) The SCCG formally write to Member Councils seeking their support for the "Inaugural Walk" and seeking a relevant coordination contact person to liaise with the WV.
- 4) The SCCG invite Phil Jenkyn to provide a brief presentation regarding the Inaugural Walk at the next meeting.
- 5) The SCCG and WV prepare an abstract for submission to the WALK21 Conference.

9.8 SCCG Grants Program Update ReportProceedings in Brief

The report included in the business papers includes details of (a) recently submitted grant applications (2013-2014) and (b) unsuccessful grant applications.

The SCCG has submitted 5 major grant applications over the last few months

- Sydney 2100-Addressing perceptions of changing coastal environments (NSW Environment Trust)
- Managing dynamics of coastal aquifers in Sydney
- Reducing plastic pollution through behaviour change interventions (NSW Environment Trust)
- Emergency Management Planning - Implementing and Embedding a Health Check for Local Government (State Emergency Management Projects – NDRP)
- An Improved and Comprehensive Approach to Assess the Risk of Storm Surges and Wave Run-Up in Sydney (State Emergency Management Projects – NDRP)

Delegates were also informed that the \$1M SCCG proposal “The Coastal Plastic Pollution Solution” via the Caring for Country Grants was unsuccessful.

Resolved that the report be received and considered.

Reports 9.9 – 9.13 FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Resolved that reports for ‘information only’ be received and noted (pending inquiry).

- 9.9 Beachwatch & Harbourwatch Programs Update (November – January)**
- 9.10 Greater Sydney Local Land Services Update**
- 9.11 NSW Department of Primary Industries Aquatic Pest and Health Update**
- 9.12 SCCG In the Press**
- 9.13 Key Activities Report for December – February 2014**

10. SCCG SUBMISSION

- **Coastal Hazards notifications on Section 149 planning certificates.**

The SCCG prepared a submission regarding the above circular. The MP&P introduced the item with an explanation of the applicable legislation, namely s.149 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*. He also discussed the substance of the draft Planning Circular addressing coastal hazard notations on s.149 Certificates, and reviewed key elements of the submission. The SCCG Submission Draft Planning Circular can be found at:

http://www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au/sites/default/files/sccg_submission_draft_planning_circular_2014.pdf

For more information see: [Draft planning circular: advice on coastal hazard.](#)

Resolved that the submission be received and noted.

11. TREASURER’S REPORT

11.1 Finance Statements for period 1 July 2013 to 31 December 2013

Resolved that:

- 1) The financial statements for the period 1 July 2013 – 31 December 2013 be received and adopted.

12. GENERAL BUSINESS

- **Discussion Items** (Please note all General Business items must be submitted prior to the meeting).
- **Working Draft – Mapping and Responding to Coastal Inundation: Exposure Assessment for the Sydney Region – Information prepared for the Sydney Coastal Councils Group (by OEH).**

Resolved that OEH be invited to present the draft Mapping and Responding to Coastal Inundation: Exposure Assessment for the Sydney Region report to the next meeting (prior to it being 100% finalised and forwarded to member councils).

- **Coastal Vulnerability to Multiple Inundation Sources – Final Outcomes report** (Launched Thursday 27 February)

Resolved that if available Dr Filippo Dall' Osso be invited to briefly present outcomes of the Coastal Vulnerability to Multiple Inundation Sources project at the next meeting.

- **2014 National General Assembly of Local Government**

The Australian Local Government Association has written to all Councils requesting a “Call for Motions” to the [2014 National General Assembly of Local Government](#) being held in Canberra on 15-18 June.

The “Full Group” resolved to send member councils the pre election submission for their consideration when developing their “Call for Motions” to the 2014 National General Assembly of Local government (15-18 June).

Background:

The EO noted that in preparation for the 2013 Federal Election, the SCCG resolved to request all relevant political parties contesting the election to outline their policy positions on the following seven key coastal management issues:

- A National Coastal Council or Commission for Australia
- Implementing priority recommendations from the “Managing our Coastal Zone in a Changing Climate – The Time to Act is Now” report
- A consistent and coordinated approach to natural hazards management and climate change adaptation in the Australian coastal zone
- Funding for Local Government and community coastal program
- A National Coastal Information System for Australian
- Maintaining public ownership of and access to and along the coastal zone
- A National Marine Management Strategy

It was suggested that the SCCG via its member council submit the key recommendations raised in its pre-election submission as motions to the Association.

Resolved that the SCCG resend to Member Councils the Policy recommendations report for their consideration when developing their “Call for Motions” to the 2014 National General Assembly of Local government (15-18 June).

- Boomerang Alliance and Keep Australia Beautiful

The Chair noted she had received a letter from the Boomerang Alliance calling on SCCG to discontinue support for any Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) campaigns given their ongoing opposition to a container deposit scheme. It was considered inappropriate for SCCG to take action on behalf of Member Councils without further assessment of the issue and consultation with delegates.

Resolved that SCCG to distribute letter to delegates to determine their own course of action.

- Redevelopment of the SCCG Strategic Plan

Dr Judy Lambert has been appointed to lead the review of the SCCG Strategic Plan. A workshop will be held one week prior to the next FG meeting.

12.1 Remaining 2014 Meeting dates / Next Meeting

Confirmed Dates

- Saturday 14 June 2014 at 12 noon
- Saturday 13 September **(AGM)** 2014 at 12 noon
- Saturday 6 December 2014 at 12 noon

Proposed Location

(City of Sydney)
(Randwick Council - pending)
(City of Sydney)

12.2 Items for Press Release

Resolved that items for press release be considered.

12.3 Agenda items for the next SCCG meeting

Resolved that delegates suggest additional agenda items including presentations for the next SCCG meeting proposed for 14 June 2014 starting at 12 noon.

12.4 Next Meeting

Resolved that the next meeting of the Group be held on 14 June 2014 at the City of Sydney (pending confirmation).

Cr Griffin closed the meeting and thanked delegates for their attendance and contributions

The meeting closed at 4.20pm.

Confirmation of Minutes:
/ /
